

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 152293
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 OES-07 CU-02 MCT-01 EB-07
COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /092 R

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P R 300144Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 152293

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PDEV, PINT, ECON, XL

SUBJECT: BARBADOS PRIME MINISTER ADAMS' MEETING WITH
ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN

1. BARBADOS PRIME MINISTER ADAMS MET TWICE PRIVATELY WITH
ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN DURING COURSE OF JUNE 23-24
TAMPA CONFERENCE ON THE CARIBBEAN. (BOTH WERE FEATURED
SPEAKERS AT THE CONFERENCE.) DISCUSSION ON U.S. MILITARY
FACILITIES IN BARBADOS BEING REPORTED SEPTEL. FOLLOWING
ARE PRINCIPAL POINTS MADE BY ADAMS IN COURSE OF GENERAL
DISCUSSION:
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PAGE 02 STATE 152293

A. MRS. CARTER'S VISIT TO JAMAICA WAS VERY MUCH APPRE-
CIATED IN THE CARIBBEAN. EXTENDING THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP
TO JAMAICA IN THIS WAY WAS A VERY WISE AND STATESMANLIKE
MOVE.

B. RADICALISM IN THE CARIBBEAN DOES NOT RUN VERY DEEP AND

IS OFTEN NOT MUCH MORE THAN A LABEL. RADICALS HAVE MORE INFLUENCE IN JAMAICA THAN ELSEWHERE, BUT EVEN THERE IT IS NOT AT BOTTOM A RADICAL SOCIETY. IN DOMINICA THE DEPTH OF RADICAL SENTIMENTS CAN BE ASSESSED BY THE FACT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO RETAIN THE MONARCHY WHILE ITS CONSERVATIVE OPPONENTS FAVOR A REPUBLIC.

C. BARBADOS OPPOSITION PARTY (DLP) AND ITS LEADER, FORMER PRIME MINISTER BARROW, DEBATED A MOVE TO THE LEFT, BUT THIS IS NOW MUCH MUTED AND IS "NOT MOTIVATING ANYONE".

D. NEITHER SMALL SIZE NOR ECONOMIC VIABILITY IS A BARRIER TO INDEPENDENCE FOR THE CARIBBEAN MINI-STATES. THE ASSOCIATED STATES ARE AS VIABLE AS A NUMBER OF MUCH LARGER, INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES.

E. ALTHOUGH MAKING CONTACTS WITH STUDENTS AND SPREADING SOME SOCIALIST PROPAGANDA, CUBANS IN BARBADOS HAVE BEEN "VERY CORRECT". CUBANS EVIDENTLY HAVE NO SECRET OPERATIONS IN BARBADOS, BECAUSE IF THEIR SECURITY PEOPLE HAD BEEN ACTIVE THERE, THE OCTOBER 6 TERRORIST BOMBING OF THE CUBANA FLIGHT WOULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED. (ADAMS ALSO BETRAYED SOME CONCERN ABOUT THE POSSIBLE IMPACT ON BARBADOS' SUGAR AND TOURIST INCOME OF U.S. RAPPROCHEMENT WITH CUBA.)

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PAGE 03 STATE 152293

F. SOVIET SUPPORT IS SHIFTING IN GUYANA, FROM PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM BACK TO OPPOSITION LEADER CHEDDI JAGAN.

2. DISCUSSION WAS VERY CORDIAL. ADAMS DID NOT RPT NOT RAISE ANY OF THE SEVERAL ECONOMIC ISSUES HE HIGHLIGHTED IN HIS SPEECH TO THE TAMPA CONFERENCE (STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE NIEO; CALL FOR U.S. SUPPORT OF INDEXATION, THE COMMON FUND, AND GENERAL DEBT FORGIVENESS FOR THE MOST SEVERELY AFFECTED; AND NEED FOR MORE BILATERAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE U.S. -- TEXT BEING POUCHED). VANCE

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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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